

viii. ABSTRACT

Project Title	Technology Enhanced Interprofessional Geriatric Advanced Nursing Education
Organization Name	The Catholic University of America, School of Nursing
Address	Cardinal Station, Washington, DC 20064
Project Director	Janet Selway, DNSc, ANP-BC; CPNP
Phone:	202-319-6486 Fax: 202 319-6485; Selway@cua.edu
Project Period:	Sept 1, 2012- August 31, 2015

Abstract Narrative: The Project seeks to improve health in a currently **underserved geriatric population** by designing, implementing and evaluating a **technology enhanced interprofessional curriculum** that prepares Adult-Gerontology Nurse Practitioners (A-GNPs) to deliver safe, high-quality primary healthcare. It will expand the current initiative at The Catholic University of America School of Nursing to prepare advanced practice nurses to meet the needs of **underserved populations**. The Project aligns with current national recommendations to transition all existing Adult Primary Care Nurse Practitioner and Gerontology Nurse Practitioner programs to Adult-Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner programs by 2013, with the aim of meeting the health care needs of the growing aging US population. A newly designed curriculum and expanded clinical training opportunities in specialized geriatric care centers will prepare advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs) and other health occupation graduate students to work in **interprofessional teams** and it will extend these educational opportunities through the use of distance education modalities. Through the use of a technology-enhanced (simulation, standardized patients, and distance modalities) curriculum and an interprofessional education model, the Project seeks to improve access to quality care for underserved adults and older adults by increasing the A-GNP workforce. The Project will recruit, educate and graduate an interprofessionally and clinically competent cadre of adult-gerontology nurse practitioners who are eligible to take the new Adult-Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner (A-GNP) National Certification Exam.

Three objectives are identified. They are: #1 - incorporate an interprofessional education model for master's level and post-master's students focused on providing collaborative patient-centered care and coordinated health management for geriatric patients; #2 - support the increased availability of coordinated primary care to the frail elderly population by developing geriatric interprofessional training opportunities in federally-funded health care settings in inner city underserved areas; #3 - develop a technically enhanced synchronous and asynchronous interprofessional training approach within the CUA A-GNP program that increases training availability for nurses interested in caring for vulnerable and underserved geriatric populations. Project objectives will be evaluated by clearly identified rubrics.

New courses (Interprofessional Teams in Geriatric Care, Non-Pharmacologic Approaches to Behavior Issues in Geriatrics, and Geriatric Issues in Pharmacology) are focused on key topics and designed to meet needs of students in nursing, social work, and clinical psychology. A

highly qualified nursing leader in technology enhanced teaching/learning strategies will serve as consultant throughout the first two years to assist faculty champions in leading faculty toward full integration of the technology enhanced interprofessional educational model within the SON. Newly developed relationships with geriatric clinical experts in model sites such as the first in the nation geriatric emergency department, acute care residential facilities for the elderly, and in an increased number of **federally-funded health care settings** will serve as clinical settings. Students will also be placed in **interprofessional teams** in D.C. Area Health Education Centers. Recruitment activities will focus on diverse qualified MSN and post MSN students with interest in health care needs of the underserved geriatric population Incorporate an interprofessional education model for masters-level and post-masters (nursing, social work, and psychology) students that is focused on providing collaborative patient-centered care and coordinated health management to geriatric patients.

Funding preference is sought based on the significant benefits this Project will provide to the **underserved geriatric population in this country.**